

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants amend the Specification to add a reference to Application No. 10/277,744 and Application No. 09/746,223 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,489,653), from which benefit of priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120; cancel claims 1-5, 7-18, and 20, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof; and amend the drawings to add the label "PRIOR ART" to Figs. 13A and 13B.

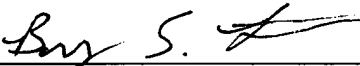
Prompt and favorable examination of this application is earnestly requested.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this paper and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 31, 2003

By: 
Bryan S. Latham
Reg. No. 49,085

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com